

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 12, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 23, 2009

SENATE BILL

No. 48

Introduced by Senator Alquist
(Principal coauthor: Senator Romero)

January 12, 2009

An act to add Section 66410 to the Education Code, relating to college textbooks.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 48, as amended, Alquist. College textbooks: electronic versions.

Existing law establishes the various segments of the public higher education system in the state. These segments include the University of California, which is administered by the Regents of the University of California, the California State University, which is administered by the Trustees of the California State University, and the California Community Colleges, which is administered by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

Existing law requires publishers of instructional material for use at public institutions of postsecondary education to make instructional material available in electronic form in a format that is compatible with commonly used braille translation and speech synthesis software upon the written request of a campus of a university or college when required for the use of students who are disabled.

This bill would require that publishers of textbooks offered for sale at a public postsecondary institution of education make the textbooks available in an electronic format by January 1, 2020. The bill would require that electronic versions of textbooks include the same content as the printed versions and would allow the electronic versions to be

copy-protected. ~~The bill would prohibit charging a higher amount for an electronic version than is charged for the printed version.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 66410 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:
3 66410. (a) No later than January 1, 2020, any individual, firm,
4 partnership, or corporation that publishes textbooks offered for
5 sale at the University of California, the California State University,
6 or the California Community Colleges, shall make the textbooks
7 ~~available for sale in an electronic format. The price at which the~~
8 ~~electronic version of the textbook is made available shall not be~~
9 ~~greater than the price charged for the printed version. The available~~
10 ~~for sale in an electronic format. The~~ electronic version of any
11 textbook shall contain the same content as the printed version and
12 may be copy-protected.
13 (b) For purposes of this section, “textbook” ~~means a book, not~~
14 ~~including a novel, that contains printed material and is intended~~
15 ~~for use as a source of study material for a class or group of students,~~
16 ~~a copy of which is expected to be available for the use of each of~~
17 ~~the students in that class or group. has the same meaning as defined~~
18 ~~in subdivision (b) of Section 66406.7.~~
19 (c) This section does not authorize any use of instructional
20 materials that would constitute an infringement of copyright under
21 the Copyright Revision Act of 1976, as amended (17 U.S.C. Sec.
22 101 et seq.).